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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/699,229	10/31/2003	Peter Thurmann	5253-27	3382
27799	7590	07/14/2006	EXAMINER	
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE 551 FIFTH AVENUE SUITE 1210 NEW YORK, NY 10176			SCHWARTZ, CHRISTOPHER P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3683	

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2006

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10/699,299

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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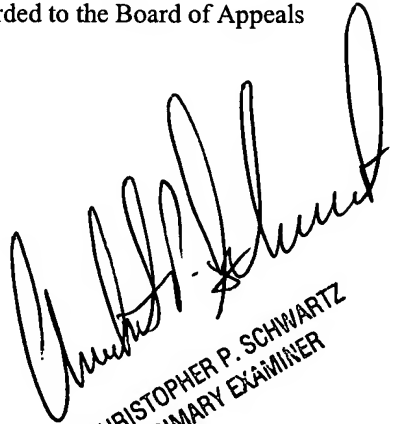
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Commissioner for Patents

The Reply Brief filed April 14, 2006 has been received and considered. The application is being forwarded to the Board of Appeals for decision on the Appeal.


CHRISTOPHER P. SCHWARTZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER

AF JHW

Attorney Docket # 5253-27

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Peter THURMANN et al.

Serial No.: 10/699,229

Filed: October 31, 2003

For: Piston-Cylinder Unit



Examiner: Schwartz, C. P.

Group Art: 3683

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

April 11, 2006

(Date of Deposit)

Thomas C. Pontani

Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

April 11, 2006

Date of Signature

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Entry
Approved
7/11/06

REPLY BRIEF

SIR:

This Reply Brief is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §41.41 to address arguments presented in the Supplemental Examiner's Answer mailed on March 2, 2006.

The Examiner states that the Appeal Brief filed on July 11, 2005 (Brief) does not contain a statement identifying the related appeals and interferences. The Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to page 2 of the Brief clearly stating that there are no related appeals and interferences.

In section 12 of the Examiner's Answer, it is stated that "Freitag et al. shows a pneumatic spring having an insulating sleeve at 10 and a *similar* sleeve at 36 which extends into the gap". (emphasis added) Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's term "similar." Freitag does not teach that coating 10 and sleeve 36 are *similar*. Structurally, sleeve 36 is spaced from heat-shrink coating 10, and, functionally, sleeve 36 is an electrical insulator which "may be a bellows." See Freitag, col. 3, lines 22-25. Furthermore, sleeve 36 is displaceable relative to cylindrical member 1 and, thus, relative to coating 10, as is taught by Freitag incorporating the relevant teaching of U.S. Patent 3,919,509 (Schnitzius). See Freitag, col. 1, lines 47-48. In the extended